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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/938,588	08/27/2001	Satoshi Shimura	Q65718	2711
7590	07/12/2006		EXAMINER	
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20037-3202				GREIMEL, JOCELYN
				ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER
				3693

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/938,588	SHIMURA, SATOSHI	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Jocelyn W. Greimel	3624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### **Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 August 2001.  
 2a) This action is **FINAL**.                            2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### **Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### **Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### **Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### **Attachment(s)**

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date 04/12/04, 08/27/01.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
     Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is in response to Applicant's application of August 27, 2001 and foreign application of August 6, 2000. Claims 1-41 are being examined.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. <sup>41</sup> **Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Ginzboorg et al (US Patent No. 6,047,051, hereinafter Ginzboorg).** In reference to claims 1, 16 and 30, Ginzboorg discloses a service contract procedure conducting system, service provider and method comprising: a service institution for offering various kinds of services through a network (col. 5, lines 1-51); a consumer terminal for making registration of any of said services offered by said service institution to obtain said service (col. 4, lines 1-26); and a service provider for making a predetermined contract with a consumer using said consumer terminal and a predetermined contract with said service institution to conduct, in place of said consumer and said service institution, a procedure associated with a service contract including said registration of said service between said service institution and said consumer under said predetermined contracts with said service provider (col. 4, lines 1-67; col. 5, lines 1-67).

3. In reference to claims 2-3, 17-18 and 30-31, Ginzboorg discloses a system, service provider and method wherein the system comprises: setting up a contract through the consumer terminal which transmits personal information of said consumer to said service provider through said network when consumer makes predetermined contract with service provider (col. 4, lines 1-42; col. 5, lines 1-51); taking consumer information transmitted from consumer terminal on the database to register consumer (col. 6, lines 64-67; col. 7, lines 1-12).
4. In reference to claims 4-6, 19-20 and 32-34, Ginzboorg discloses a system service provider and method wherein the system comprises: accessing a database to register information; transferring consumer information; changing and deleting consumer and registration information (col. 4, lines 1-67; col. 5, lines 1-67).
5. In reference to claims 7-12, 21-26 and 35-39, Ginzboorg discloses a system service provider and method wherein the system comprises: listing services provided to the consumer (col. 5, lines 1-51); accessing a database of consumer services and registration for services (col. 5, lines 33-51); collecting essential consumer information through a database and registering consumer for services (col. 6, lines 30-67; col. 7, lines 1-12).

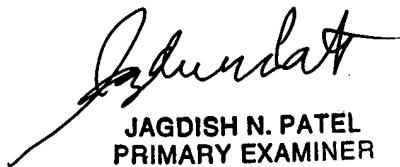
6. In reference to claims 13-15, 27-29, and 40-41, Ginzboorg discloses a system service provider and method wherein the system: sorts services subscribed to by consumer and presents a list of services to the consumer through the network (col. 5, lines 1-18; col. 9, 50-54; col. 11, lines 5-60).

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jocelyn Greimel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3734. The examiner can normally be reached Monday - Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached at (571) 272-6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



JAGDISH N. PATEL  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Jocelyn Greimel  
Examiner  
July 6, 2006